

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claim 25. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A method of treating an allergic or inflammatory condition associated with Fc ϵ RI-mediated degranulation and/or Fc γ RIII-mediated degranulation comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of an antibody that binds to CD81 and inhibits Fc ϵ RI-mediated degranulation and/or Fc γ RIII-mediated degranulation.

9. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is selected from the group consisting of asthma, hay fever and atopic eczema.

10-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antibody that binds to CD81 is a monoclonal antibody.

23. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is selected from the group consisting of autoimmune (Type I) diabetes mellitus, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, sarcoidosis, Sjögren's syndrome, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, dermatomyositis, scleroderma, polymyositis, systemic lupus erythematosus, biliary cirrhosis, autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune hepatitis, psoriasis, contact sensitivity and atopic dermatitis.

24. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8 wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is passive cutaneous anaphylaxis.

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25. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antibody agent does not alter one or more of Fc ϵ RI-induced tyrosine phosphorylation, Fc ϵ RI-induced intracellular calcium mobilization and leukotriene C₄ (LTC₄) production.
26. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition associated with Fc ϵ RI-mediated degranulation and/or Fc γ RIII-mediated degranulation is an allergic or inflammatory condition associated with Fc ϵ RI-mediated degranulation.
- 27-38. (Canceled)
39. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition associated with Fc ϵ RI-mediated degranulation and/or Fc γ RIII-mediated degranulation is an allergic or inflammatory condition associated with Fc γ RIII-mediated degranulation.
40. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is asthma.
41. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8 further comprising administering a physiologically acceptable carrier.
42. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antibody that binds to CD81 is a polyclonal antibody.
43. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antibody that binds to CD81 is mAb 5D1.

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44. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antibody that binds to CD81 is mAb 1A12.
45. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is an allergic condition.
46. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is an anaphylactic reaction.
47. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is characterized by mast cell activation.
48. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the allergic or inflammatory condition is characterized by basophil activation.